

- Minimize intrusion and damage to natural resources located adjacent to the roadway.
- Enhance and restore natural resources that have been injured and/or disconnected by the existence of U.S. Highway 93, including:
 - ≤ hydrologic, lacustrine, riparian, and wetlands resources;
 - ≤ natural landforms and geologic features;
 - ≤ native vegetation and natural vegetative patterns; and
 - ≤ fish and wildlife habitat and migratory corridors.
- Provide safe and functional visitor use facilities at several locations along the highway.
- Develop guidelines for integrated roadside detailing, maintenance, signs, and interpretive concepts.

This document is intended to provide a foundation for the development of a unified and unique identity for U.S. Highway 93 on the Flathead Indian Reservation from Evaro to Polson, MT. The document primarily gives guidance at a conceptual level. It is a starting point for the development of final design details. Although safety and design standards will change over time, every reasonable effort should be made to assure that the spirit of the concepts presented here are manifest in the final design.

3. Design Guidelines

The intent of these guidelines is to provide designers, planners, engineers, and others involved with transportation-related activities on the Flathead Indian Reservation with a consistent design philosophy and design style. These recommendations are not intended to be rigid standards that limit creativity or produce standard one-size-fits-all details.

Design Theme



Graphic logo depicting Coyote, legendary hero of the Salish, Kootenai, and Pend d'Oreille people.

The design theme established for U.S. Highway 93 (US 93) on the Flathead Indian Reservation (Reservation) is “homeland of the *Sqélex*” “*Aq Ismakniké*” (traditional words in Salish and Kootenai for “the people”). This design theme is to be represented by an artistic logo depiction of Coyote. Coyote is a legendary hero in Salish, Kootenai, and Pend d'Oreille culture who prepared this landscape for inhabitation by all creatures and who continues to guide Salish, Kootenai, and Pend d'Oreilles people on their journey through this world. Accordingly, Coyote is a link between people and the Natural and Spiritual worlds in which this highway is being constructed and therefore represents the spirit of this place. The design theme is characterized by large-scale design elements of native materials, primarily contoured earth, quarried stone, and rough sawn timber and by small-scale design elements of Salish and Kootenai traditional beadwork patterns. This theme should continue to be the guide for modifications of site and architectural detailing and new construction throughout the length of the highway corridor.